



Wireless
Infrastructure
Association

September 27, 2017

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 Twelfth Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: Notice of *Ex Parte* Communication, Streamlining Deployment of Small Cell Infrastructure, WT Docket No. 16-421; Accelerating Wireless Broadband Deployment by Removing Barriers to Infrastructure Investment, WT Docket No. 17-79; Accelerating Wireline Broadband Deployment by Removing Barriers to Infrastructure Investment, WC Docket No. 17-84; Broadband Deployment Advisory Committee, GN Docket No. 17-83

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On September 25, 2017, Van Bloys and the undersigned of the Wireless Infrastructure Association (WIA)¹ met with Erin McGrath and Amy Bender of Commissioner O’Rielly’s office.

Consistent with its comments in the above-captioned proceedings, WIA emphasized the importance of the Federal Communications Commission’s (FCC or Commission) efforts to reduce regulatory barriers to wireless infrastructure deployment. WIA encouraged the FCC to streamline the siting process to enhance capacity on 4G networks and spur the deployment of next-generation 5G networks through these proceedings as well as through the Broadband Deployment Advisory Committee.

WIA asked the FCC to reduce siting delay using its existing statutory authority under Sections 253 and 332 of the Telecommunications Act. To provide the connectivity necessary to meet exponentially increasing data demands, WIA discussed expediting the deployment of small cell infrastructure within public rights-of-way so long as the equipment met

¹ The Wireless Infrastructure Association (WIA) is the principal organization representing companies that build, design, own, and manage telecommunications facilities throughout the world. WIA’s members include carriers, infrastructure providers, and professional services firms.

defined height and volume limitations to maintain a responsible and transparent foundation in infrastructure deployment.² WIA asked the FCC to consider clarifying the process for upgrading sites using Section 6409(a) Eligible Facilities Requests based on misinterpretations of previously-issued Commission rules. WIA also underscored the importance of a modernized pole attachment process to small cell deployment, including a 180-day shot clock for resolving complaints and access to utility-owned light poles.

WIA also encouraged the FCC to streamline historic preservation and environmental review processes. WIA asked the FCC to swiftly clear Twilight Towers to further competitive broadband offerings and offer more opportunities for FirstNet collocations. Further, WIA sought adoption of finite timelines to reduce delays along with relief and standardization of Tribal fees, and modernization of the Tower Construction Notification System (TCNS). WIA also urged the FCC to eliminate the need to undergo additional historic preservation review for compound expansion within certain parameters.

Pursuant to Section 1.1206 of the Commission's rules, a copy of this letter will be filed via ECFS and provided to each participant. Please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned with any questions.

Respectfully submitted,



D. Zachary Champ
Director, Government Affairs
Wireless Infrastructure Association
500 Montgomery Street, Suite 500
Alexandria, VA 22314
(703) 535-7407
zac.champ@wia.org

cc: Erin McGrath
Amy Bender

² See Comments of the Wireless Infrastructure Association, WT Docket No. 17-79, WC Docket No. 17-84 (filed Jun. 15, 2017) at 5 n.16 (describing a volume and height-based definition for "small wireless facility").